

Application No.: 10/782,542
Amendment dated: May 31, 2005
Reply to Office Action of January 31, 2005
Attorney Docket No.:22475.16

b.) Remarks

Claims 1-6, 8-12, and 14-16 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 8, 9, and 14-16 have been amended in various particulars as indicated hereinabove. Claims 7 and 13 have been canceled.

Turning now to the merits,

Claims 1-5 and 9-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,353,802 to Ollmar.

Claims 9-12 and 16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,448,199 to Schmid.

Claims 9-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,091,977 to Tarjan et al.

Claim 6 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,353,802 to Ollmar in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,750,649 to Severinghaus.

Claim 15 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,353,802 to Ollmar in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,448,199 to Schmid.

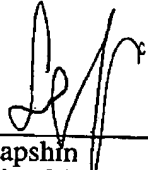
Claims 7, 8, 13, and 14 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but are allowable if rewritten in independent form.

The amended independent Claims 1 and 15 have been rewritten to incorporate the elements of the allowable Claim 7. The amended independent Claims 9 and 16 have been rewritten to incorporate the elements of the allowable Claim 13. All other Claims pending in the Application are now dependent upon allowable independent Claims 1 and 9.

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Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. Should any questions arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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